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USDA, NASS, MINNESOTA FIELD OFFICE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
TWIN CITIES INT'L AIRPORT, UNIV. OF MINN. EXTENSION SERVICE, STATE CLIMATOLOGY, FSA, NRCS, AND DNR

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The following comments are from Minnesota's County Extension Educators, FSA (USDA - Farm Service Agency), and NRCS (USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service) Offices

**BENTON:** Good snow cover. Eight inches plus over most of Benton county. Quick turn to cold is a challenge for livestock and people. Feed supplies are good. Some unharvested crop. Wet ground that needed to freeze before harvest, or waiting for crop to dry.

**BIG STONE:** Winter weather has been rather good for the livestock with no prolonged cold periods. Feed appears to be adequate as summer productions were good. We will have a white christmas as the fields are snow covered.

**CARVER:** A 6 to 8 inch blanket of snow covers the county. The crop year was above average for most producers. The early winter has been mild with no livestock problems and plenty of feed available. Some talk and concern already about how much operating costs will increase for the next crop year.

**CHIPPEWA:** A few acres of corn remain unharvested in fields. Livestock doing well with adequate feed supplies at this time. Good snow cover. Fall tillage mostly complete and alot of fertilizer was fall applied.

**DODGE:** Dodge County has minimal snow cover due to recent above average temperatures. Soil moisture is adequate. Approximately 2 percent of corn remains in the field due to lack of storage availability. Variable temperatures may create challenges for livestock health.

**FILLMORE:** Early snow has prevented heavy grazing of corn stalks by the beef cows.

**GRANT:** All corn is harvested. Tillage work was completed quite easily this year. Snow cover is about 6 inches. No problems with livestock or feed availability.

**HUBBARD:** There continues to be a small amount of unharvested corn in the county. Depredation from wildlife is a concern to producers with corn in the field. Presently we have a fairly good snow cover, six plus inches. Livestock feed is abundant and livestock condition is good.

**JACKSON:** November 26, we received rain which turned to snow. At that time temperatures dropped down to the teens and below. Livestock took a couple of weeks to adjust to the cooler temperatures. The fields have too much snow for grazing. Additional hay needed to be fed to make up for the loss of grazing and the colder temperatures. Surprisingly, under the snow some ground is not yet frozen. I don't think alfalfa was harmed by the freezing rain.

**KITTSOON:** Fall weather conditions did allow for a majority of fieldwork in preparation of 2006 to be completed. There were a number of sunflowers harvested late, the acreage was not worked. Major financial concerns exist due to 2005 crop disaster. A majority of producers are facing significant shortfalls.

**LAC QUI PARLE:** There has been some icing damage to trees and power lines by recent storms. Nothing severe in LQP County. We have general snow cover, but it is not very deep. Some of recent precipitation came as rain, and appears to have been able to soak in, as frost is not very deep in most places.

**LINCOLN:** An ice storm caused a lot of tree damage and broken electric poles and lines. Good snow cover. Hay supplies are generally good. Farmers are tax planning before year-end, arranging leases and loans.

**MAHNOMEN:** Good snow cover. A few corn and sunflower fields did not get plowed back. Plenty of feed stocks for the cattle. Some grain being moved.

**MARTIN:** The best guess for unharvested corn would be about 1000 acres. Ample supply of feed with most elevators having piles of corn still remaining. About 6 inches plus of snow cover. Very cold weather to date, but warmer weather late this week is forecast.

**MORRISON:** Snow cover approximately 8-12 inches. Temperatures have been averaging near normal. Excellent livestock conditions and feed availability. Very little unharvested corn remains (maybe 5 percent at most).

Morrison county has approximately 5 percent of the 2005 crop as unharvested corn. We have about 8-12 inches of snow cover. Livestock conditions are good, and feed availability is good for now.

**MURRAY:** Most field activities were complete in Murray county when winter weather conditions hit this area with extreme cold and heavy snow. The snow cover is 6-8 inches deep. Ground is frozen to about 18 inches. The area corn piles at elevators and on farms are being reduced. There seems to be minimal damage to the outside corn.

**NICOLLET:** Cold weather this week. Livestock doing well. Feed supplies in good shape. Advising farmers to keep an eye on grain bins. Snow cover shallow. Crop completely harvested.

**PINE:** Livestock doing well. Hay supply ok but good quality hay in short supply. Yields hurt in central part of the county by drought-producers looking for grain for feed. Snow cover is good.

**RICE:** All crops are harvested. Cold temperatures and 8 inches of snow have made livestock handling a bit tougher. Feed supplies adequate.

**ROSEAU:** The ground froze when it was saturated, and some fields were unable to be worked back. Therefore, we will need an ideal spring to get all fields seeded. Temperatures and snow cover are normal. Livestock are in good condition. However, five beef herds and 1 deer have tested positive for TB.

**TRAVERSE:** Snow and cold continue to be an issue for livestock producers. The snow/ice storm in late November left many producers without power for as long as a week.

**WADENA:** Wadena area has about 8 inches of snow. A small amount of corn is left in the field at this time. Producers seem to have had very good yields this season by their reports.

**WINONA:** Very few unharvested acres. Eight inch snow cover county wide. Very little wind so far so livestock have not been stressed.

Thank you for your comments.

PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER, 2005:

Temperatures during November averaged from 3.4 degrees above normal in the Southeast District to 5.0 degrees above normal in the Southwest and South Central Districts. Temperature extremes included a low of -4 degrees at Hibbing, and a high of 76 degrees at Mankato. Precipitation averaged from 0.37 inch below normal in the East Central and South Central Districts to 1.94 inches above normal in the North Central District. Greatest monthly precipitation of 3.69 inches was recorded in Olivia.

Precipitation and Temperature Summary for November 2005

	Temperature				Precipitation	
	High	Low	Month Ave	Dept. for Month	Month Total	Dept. for Month
<u>NW DIST 1</u>						
Crookston	62	1	31.2	5.7	1.98	.99
Moorhead	64	0	31.4	4.4	2.72	1.66
Warroad	55	-2	28.8	4.7	2.05	.86
<u>NC DIST 2</u>						
Grand Rapids	58	1	31.1	4.2	3.24	1.65
Intl. Falls	60	-2	27.4	2.9	3.30	1.94
Itasca	63	-3	29.8	5.6	3.64	2.23
<u>NE DIST 3</u>						
Duluth	57	1	30.8	2.8	2.87	.75
Grand Marais	67	4	40.2	8.4	3.19	1.43
Hibbing	57	-4	28.5	3.0	1.56	.21
<u>WC DIST 4</u>						
Alexandria	69	4	32.2	4.1	2.07	.83
Browns Valley	70	2	35.2	5.3	1.84	.65
Canby	71	7	35.6	3.3	3.14	1.48
Fergus Falls	67	3	32.9	5.2	2.28	1.11
Montevideo	71	4	34.0	4.0	3.50	2.04
Morris	68	2	32.7	3.7	2.66	1.44
<u>CENT DIST 5</u>						
Becker	68	3	34.6	5.8	2.30	.41
Collegeville	67	5	35.4	4.4	3.44	1.72
Hutchinson	70	5	35.6	4.9	2.35	.70
Olivia	70	4	35.2	5.2	3.69	2.28
St. Cloud	67	3	33.2	4.4	2.55	1.01
Staples	66	0	31.2	4.2	2.38	.90
Willmar	67	5	34.4	4.8	2.72	1.17
<u>EC DIST 6</u>						
Aitkin	62	2	33.3	5.2	1.85	.04
Forest Lake	69	4	35.6	4.3	1.73	-.26
MSP Airport	71	11	36.5	4.0	1.53	-.41
St. Paul - UofM	70	5	37.8	4.2	1.22	-.87
<u>SW DIST 7</u>						
Lamberton	73	5	35.8	4.6	2.03	.62
Pipestone	71	2	35.4	5.4	1.99	.47
Redwood Falls	71	4	35.8	3.7	2.87	1.27
Worthington	74	1	36.1	6.0	1.94	.28
<u>SC DIST 8</u>						
Faribault	73	6	36.6	4.7	1.63	-.39
Mankato	76	5	37.0	5.0	1.67	-.35
Waseca	73	2	36.0	4.6	1.73	-.59
Winnebago	75	5	37.7	5.8	1.70	-.16
<u>SE DIST 9</u>						
Preston	71	5	35.4	2.9	2.46	.32
Red Wing	69	8	36.1	3.8	1.57	-.24
Rochester	71	2	35.8	4.6	2.25	.24
Rosemount	70	4	35.4	4.5	1.80	-.54
Winona	70	9	38.0	2.0	2.33	.15
m=some data missing						

